



April 2, 2012

Dear CARES Plus MTP Participant,

Thank you for participating in the CARES Plus Program, Component D, State Coaching Pilot, ***My Teaching Partner (MTP)***. MTP is a research-based professional development coaching program for early childhood educators. Your participation is important to the success of CARES Plus. Your successful completion of the MTP program year will satisfy your Component requirement for participation in your local CARES Plus stipend program.

Along with being an MTP participant, you are also participating in a post-Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) Observation. You completed the pre-CLASS Observation **two** hour video recording earlier this year. In addition to working with your coach in MTP, you need to complete the **two** hour post-CLASS Observation video recording and return the SD card to CDTC, postmarked no later than May 1, 2012.

Note: Enclosed is an additional SD card for your use in the event the first card is corrupt!

What is CLASS?

The Classroom Assessment Scoring System™ (CLASS™) is an observational tool that provides a common lens and language focused on what matters—the classroom interactions that boost student learning.

Steps to complete the post-CLASS Observation:

To complete post-CLASS observation choose one morning between April 9 – April 30, 2012 to video record a continuous **two** hour segment of your normal classroom activities. Please return your SD card containing your **two** hour observation video, postmarked by May 1, 2012.

Next Steps

- Review the attached ***CLASS Observation Video Recording Protocol*** and schedule your time to video recording your **two** hour observation between April 9 – April 30, 2012.

Returning the SD Card

- **Follow the *CLASS Observation Video Recording Protocol*** for instructions on returning the SD card containing your **two** hour observation video. In order to ensure confidentiality, make sure **not** to include your name on the envelope. Your ID # is included on the yellow envelope and it will be used to assign your video for coding.



- Please place the SD card in the small yellow envelope and seal, then place in the enclosed padded mailing envelope, seal and return to CDTC. The padded mailing envelope is prepared for immediate use with prepaid postage and address label. Mail the SD card containing your **two** hour observation video, **postmarked by May 1, 2012.**

Items enclosed in this Package:

In addition to this introduction letter, this package contains the following items:

- **Video Taping Checklist**
- **(2) SD cards**
- **Padded mailing envelope with mailing address and prepaid postage.**
- **Small yellow envelope for SD card**
- **When you have completed your MTP cycle video recording, AND when your coach advises you to do so, return your camera to:**

Maria Guzman
Child Development Training Consortium
1620 N Carpenter Rd., Ste. C-16
Modesto, CA 95351

Program Related Questions

If you have questions regarding the CARES Plus program, please contact your county CARES Plus Lead Agency administrator. For more information regarding the CLASS observations, please contact Maria Guzman, CLASS Coordinator, at the Child Development Training Consortium at (209) 548-5733 or guzmanma@yosemite.edu.

Thank you for your participation in CARES Plus!